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Disaster News

MORE THAN \$20 MILLION APPROVED FOR MICHIGAN DISASTER AID

EAST LANSING, MI — Since a major disaster declaration for Michigan was announced on June 30, \$20,497,649 million in grants and loans has already been approved to help homeowners, renters and businesses recover from the severe storms, tornadoes and floods of May 20–24. The U. S. Small Business Administration (SBA) has approved \$217,400 in low-interest loans for homeowners, renters and businesses.

Individual assistance dollars approved by county at COB 7/18 are listed below:

COUNTY	APPLICATIONS	DOLLARS APPROVED		COUNTY	APPLICATIONS	DOLLARS APPROVED	
Barry	36	\$	84,544	Macomb	229	\$	354,932
Berrien	14	\$	35,481	Mecosta	1	\$	
Cass	3	\$		Oakland	560	\$	800,632
Genesee	118	\$	126,506	Ottawa	6	\$	19,035
Gladwin	3	\$		Sanilac	16	\$	37,090
Ingham	76	\$	130,733	Shiawassee	22	\$	28,559
Ionia	1	\$		St. Clair	178	\$	415,990
Jackson	7	\$	7,102	St. Joseph	1	\$	
Kent Livingston	17 7	\$ \$	33,091 20,609	Wayne	16,041	\$ 1	8,163,282

Note: Dollars approved are not released for counties with 3 or less eligible applicants.

The FEMA Helpline (1-800-621-3362) has received 77,977 inquiries regarding application status or information about disaster recovery programs and services. 818 people have visited Disaster Recovery Centers in Wayne, Berrien, Kent and Macomb Counties with similar inquiries.

Individuals may apply for disaster assistance by calling FEMA's toll-free registration line at **1-800-621-FEMA (3362) or TTY: 1-800-462-7585**. Phone lines are open Monday through Saturday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

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On March 1, 2003, FEMA became part of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. FEMA's continuing mission within the new department is to lead the effort to prepare the nation for all hazards and effectively manage federal response and recovery efforts following any national incident. FEMA also initiates proactive mitigation activities, trains first responders and manages the National Flood Insurance Program and the U.S. Fire Administration.